

# MINOR CONSENT PROCEDURES

## 1. ELIGIBILITY

A. Minor consent eligibility is for a period of one month. The minor must return in person to the

County welfare office to reapply for the subsequent month for which he/she may need a minor consent service. State law and regulations on minor consent services prevent the county from contacting the parents of a child applying only for minor consent services.

## 2. NEW MINOR CONSENT AID CODES

A. Prior to September 1, 1997, youth approved for minor consent services were assigned an appropriate Medi-Cal aid code based on their eligibility, usually aid code 82 or 83. Beginning September 1, 1997, youth approved for minor consent services were assigned one of four new minor consent aid codes as follows, based on the child's age and types of services covered:

AID CODE	TYPE OF SERVICES COVERED
7M	Restricted to minors who are at least 12 years of age, limited to sexually transmitted diseases, drug and alcohol abuse, family planning, and sexual assault services. This aid code is not to be used for any mental health service.
7N	Restricted to pregnant/postpartum minors, limited to pregnancy, pregnancy related, and family planning services. This aid code does not have a minimum age restriction. <i>AOD treatment services may also be provided as a pregnancy related service to a minor with aid code 7N. FFP reimbursement may be claimed for this aid code.</i>
7P	Restricted to minors who are at least 12 years of age. Limited to sexually transmitted diseases, drug and alcohol abuse, family planning, and sexual assault services. This aid code is to be used for outpatient mental health treatment and counseling.
7R	Restricted to minors under age 12 and limited to family planning and sexual assault services. This aid code cannot be used for mental health services, services for drug and alcohol abuse, or sexually transmitted diseases.

B. Up to three months of retroactive minor consent eligibility may also be approved by the eligibility worker if the minor is eligible and has unpaid medical bills for any of the three retroactive months. In that case, the appropriate minor consent aid code from 2A above will also be assigned to the approved retroactive months.

C. Only the services allowed by the aid code will be eligible for reimbursement.

D. AOD treatment services may be provided to all minors in aid code 7M and 7P, and to pregnant/postpartum females in aid code 7N.

E. AOD treatment services may **not** be provided to minors in aid code 7R.

F. Aid codes 7M, 7P, and 7R may or may not have a share of cost (SOC). The SOC is the amount that must be paid or obligated toward the cost of health care services in the month requesting Medi-Cal payment before the person may receive services reimbursed by Medi-Cal. The SOC is based on the individual's income and is calculated by the eligibility case worker at the time the individual applies for Medi-Cal.

G. Aid code 7N will not have a SOC.

H. FFP may be claimed for services in aid code 7N (see below for explanation).

### **3. FEDERAL FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION FOR MINOR CONSENT SERVICES PROVIDED TO A PREGNANT/POSTPARTUM INDIVIDUAL - AID CODE 7N**

A. The United States Department of Health and Human Services, Health Care Financing Administration, recently approved the California State Department of Health Services' (DHS) Medicaid State Plan Amendment to allow claiming of FFP for pregnant/postpartum youth under the age of 21 who have been approved for pregnancy-related and family planning minor consent services. The DHS has determined that AOD treatment services provided to the pregnant/postpartum minor consent individual in aid code 7N are also a covered service eligible for FFP. The AOD treatment services are

considered relevant to the pregnancy because they are services for a condition which complicates pregnancy, as stated in federal law.

B. Collection of FFP for minor consent AOD services to a pregnant/postpartum youth in aid code 7N will be effective starting with the September 1997 month of service. Services to minors in other minor consent aid codes will not be eligible for FFP.

#### **4. INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT**

A. The Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs (ADP) is in the process of negotiating the Fiscal Year (FY) 1997-98 Interagency Agreement (IA) with DHS to include FFP for AOD treatment services to pregnant and postpartum minor consent youth. We anticipate no delays in processing the IA due to this modification

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#### **5. CONTRACT PROCESSING**

A. ADP is in the process of finalizing the FY 1997-98 changes to the contract amendment diskettes which will be sent to counties and direct contract providers after release of the Budget Act allocation. Instructions for submitting minor consent services budgets will be included with the diskette.

#### **6. BILLING INFORMATION**

A. Providers must continue to place all minor consent services on a separate Drug/Medi-Cal Eligibility Worksheet, ADP 1584. Continue to write "Minor Consent" in the upper right hand corner of the form to identify the claims. Counties and direct contract providers must do the same on the Monthly Claim for Drug/Medi-Cal Reimbursement and Monthly Provider Service and Revenue Summary, ADP 1592. It will not be necessary to add any additional information to the claiming forms.

B. The Department will utilize the new minor consent aid codes in its D/MC billing process to identify services eligible for FFP. Reimbursement for FFP will be made to counties/direct contractors following the same procedures for other D/MC reimbursement.